

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating finished garments comprising cellulosic material so as to cause cross-linking, which comprises the step of treating fabrics with an effective amount of a blocked cross-linking agent for cellulose, said cross-linking agent being thermally activated, wherein the blocked cross-linking agent comprises a polycarboxylic acid, which is blocked by esterification with an electron withdrawing alcohol or imide to form a polyester and wherein the blocking alcohol or imide comprises one or more of:
 - a) trichlorophenol,
 - b) isoeugenol,
 - c) menthol,
 - d) 4-cyanophenol,
 - e) ethyl salicylate,
 - f) 2,6-dimethoxy phenol,
 - g) 4-aminophenol,
 - h) dimethylamino phenol, and,
 - i) N-hydroxysuccinimide.
2. (cancel)

3. (cancel)
4. (cancel)
5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 41 wherein the polycarboxylic acid is succinic acid, butyl tetra carboxylic acid (BTCA), 3,6-dioxaoctanedioic acid, tartaric acid, mucic acid, glutamic acid, methylamino diacetic acid, or nitriloacetic acid.
6. (cancel)
7. (cancel)
8. (currently amended)A method according to claim 41 wherein the polyester comprises one or more of:
 - a) ~~the~~ trichlorophenol diester of succinic acid,
 - b) ~~the~~ trichlorophenol diester of BTCA,
 - c) ~~the~~ N-hydroxysuccinimide diester of succinic acid,
 - d) ~~the~~ isoeugenol diester of succinic acid, and,
 - e) ~~the~~ menthol diester of succinic acid.
9. (cancel)
10. (cancel)
11. (cancel)
12. (original) A method according to claim 1 which further comprises the step of heat curing the cellulosic material.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12 wherein heat treatment is performed at a temperature of from 50 to 250C, more preferably at a temperature of from 100-200C.
14. (original) A method accord to claim 1 wherein the cross-linking agent has a molecular weight below 1500 Dalton.
15. (currently amended) A composition for use in the method of claim 1 which comprises an effective amount of a blocked cross-linking agent for cellulose, said cross-linking agent being thermally activated, wherein the blocked cross-linking agent comprises a polycarboxylic acid, which is blocked by esterification with an electron withdrawing alcohol or imide to form a polyester and wherein the blocking alcohol or imide comprises one or more of:
- a) trichlorophenol,
 - b) isoeugenol,
 - c) menthol,
 - d) 4-cyanophenol,
 - e) ethyl salicylate,
 - f) 2,6-dimethoxy phenol,
 - g) 4-aminophenol,
 - h) dimethylamino phenol, and,
 - i) N-hydroxysuccinimide,

16. (original) A composition according to claim 15 further comprising a textile compatible carrier.
17. (original) A composition according to claim 16 wherein the textile compatible carrier comprises a surfactant.
18. (original) A composition according to claim 15, packaged in the form of a spray.